

Funds allocated to each city as per the aforesaid formula are released subject to release of matching State Govt. share and furnishing Utilisation Certificate in respect of grant released in the previous year. During the year 2000-2001, the total budget allocation of Rs. 90.50 crores was allocated to the 5 States on the basis of this formula and the amount allocated to each State was as under:—

MUMBAI	—	Rs. 21.98 Crores
CHENNAI	—	Rs. 16.02 Crores
BANGALORE	—	Rs. 15.76 Crores
KOLKATA	—	Rs. 19.07 Crores
HYDERABAD	—	Rs. 17.73 Crores

The Central Government had released an amount of Rs. 121.88 crores to Mumbai upto 31.3.2000, while the State Government had released Rs. 110.34 crores. The State Government have since released an amount of Rs. 11.44 crores bringing the State Share at par with Central Share.

It is not possible for the Central Government to release money in excess of their entitlement of the budgetary allocation even if a State Government may have released funds in excess of their 25% share.

**Uniform Policy to Prevent the Disaster due to earthquake in
Metropolitan cities**

1143. SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of faulty building structures and use of spurious materials in most of the buildings in metropolis of the country;

(b) whether any uniform rule and policy have been evolved by Government to check the impact/prevention of any disaster due to earthquakes in future; and

(c) what corrective action has been taken in the wake of Gujarat earthquake by the Centre/State Governments for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) Damages that occurred during recent earthquake in Gujarat have indicated the existence of faulty building structures and use of unsuitable materials made in constructions.

[7th March, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

(b) A Vulnerability Atlas of India has been brought out and circulated for necessary action by the State Government. Guidelines have also been developed for disaster resistant constructions. These would be helpful in construction of building in future and make the buildings safer.

(c) The guidelines for construction as per structural safety norms have already been circulated and reiterated. The States have been reminded. This Ministry is convening a meeting of all State Ministers on 14/3/2001, to review and expedite action in this regard.

Assessment of Housing shortage in the country

1144. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have assessed the housing shortage in urban areas of the country particularly that of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what action Government propose to take to boost the housing sector, particularly in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) and (b) As per the projections of the National Buildings Organisation / Working Group on Urban Housing for the 9th Plan based on 1991 census data, the housing shortage for all India (Urban) and in the urban areas of Andhra Pradesh is estimated as 6.64 Million and 0.89 Million respectively for the year 2001.

(c) Housing is a State subject and it is primarily the responsibility of State Government to provide housing to people particularly those belonging to the EWS / LIG categories. The Central Government has been providing policy guidelines and taking various initiatives to promote housing activity in both urban and rural areas. The National Housing and Habitat Policy-1998 has prescribed the role of the Central Government as that of a facilitator and enabler. Accordingly, the Central Government has taken various initiatives to accelerate the pace of housing in the urban areas. These include:—

- I. Fiscal incentives in the form of Income Tax and other concessions and access to funds through equity support to HUDCO.
- II. By advocating a legal regime conducive to vigorous housing and construction activity.